



Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

Event Name	Ector County Mass Casualty Incident FINAL
Date	January 15, 2015
Time	1000
Operational Period	January 14 - 15, 2015
Report Number	#2

Regions Affected	
DPS Regions Affected	Region 4
DDCs Active	None

STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:

On Wednesday, January 14th, at approximately 7:30 am, a transport bus traveling from the Middleton Unit in Abilene to the Sanchez Unit in El Paso was involved in an accident. Preliminary information indicates the vehicle left the roadway near Mile Marker 100 on Interstate Highway 20 and collided with a train. 2 correctional officers and 8 offenders died from injuries sustained in the accident. All ten deceased victims were removed from the crash site and taken to funeral homes in Odessa. One TDCJ staff member and four offenders were transported to the Medical Center in Odessa and are receiving medical treatment. The TDCJ staff member was listed in critical condition. Two of the four hospitalized offenders are in critical condition, and the other two hospitalized offenders are in serious condition. The agency has notified all of the next of kin for those involved in the accident.

A Union Pacific Railroad spokesman has confirmed that the train tracks reopened as of 7:15PM last night. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) investigated the scene and observed no hazardous material releases. An investigation into the accident is ongoing. At this time there are no unmet needs or other requests for State assistance.

**STATE AGENCY REPORTS
TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
RESPONDING AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS**

Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ): The TDCJ Administrative Command Center was de-activated.

Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS): Texas Department of Public Safety Highway Patrol was on scene.

Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT): TxDOT responded to assess any possible bridge damage.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ): On January 14, 2015, TCEQ Midland Regional Office investigators arrived and viewed the accident site. It was determined that a small amount of diesel and vehicle fluids were released. However, there was no immediate danger to life, property or the environment at the time of the site visit due to the release. The investigators met with several Union Pacific Railroad and DPS personnel and were given additional information on how the accident progressed and that the train cars damaged contained no hazardous materials. The investigators proceeded to the damaged railcar site and observed no hazmat hazards.

FINAL COMMENTS: The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor the situation and will provide additional situation reports as needed. The SOC is at Activation Level IV (Normal Conditions).

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I (Emergency Conditions)
Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the DEM Homepage at: www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem

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